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	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	NEA-01
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SSO-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
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TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164775

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL MOPS RW FR

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON FRENCH INITIATIVE ON RWANDA

1. SUMMARY. FRENCH EMBASSY AFRICA WATCHER ALAIN GIRMA TOLD AF/C JUNE 20 THAT PLANS ARE ON TRACK FOR AN IMMEDIATE FRENCH DEPLOYMENT TO RWANDA. ITALY, SENEGAL AND GHANA HAVE AGREED TO SUPPLY TROOPS; SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE OFFERED TO PROVIDE LOGISTICS ASSISTANCE. FRENCH ASSETS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE ZAIRE/RWANDA BORDER. GOF EXPECTS THAT AN IMPLEMENTING UN RESOLUTION WILL BE APPROVED BY EVENING OF JUNE 21. FRANCE PLANS TO OPERATE ONLY IN GOR-CONTROLLED AREAS OF RWANDA, AND TO LEAVE RWANDA AS SOON AS ADDITIONAL UNAMIR TROOPS ARRIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. AT DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST, FRENCH EMBASSY WASHINGTON AFRICA WATCHER ALAIN GIRMA CALLED ON AF/C DEPUTY DIRECTOR REED FENDRICK JUNE 20 TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON FRENCH PLANS FOR RWANDA. GIRMA REPORTED THAT SINCE ANNOUNCING THEIR PLANNED HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION JUNE 15, THE GOF HAS CONDUCTED A ROUND OF DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH

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EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN ALLIES AND IS PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS. IN EUROPE, ITALY HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO CONTRIBUTE TROOPS. ITALY, SPAIN, BELGIUM, THE NETHERLANDS, AND DENMARK WILL SUPPLY LOGISTICAL ASSISTANCE. EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN THE MISSION WILL BE COORDINATED THROUGH THE WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION (WEU). THERE WILL BE A WEU MEETING JUNE 21 TO DISCUSS RWANDA.

3. GIRMA SAID THAT SENEGAL AND GHANA HAVE BOTH AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE TROOPS TO THE FRENCH-LED EFFORT. IN RESPONSE TO FENDRICK'S QUESTION ON WHETHER THESE WOULD BE THE SAME TROOPS THAT SENEGAL AND GHANA ARE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EXPANDED UNAMIR FORCE, OR ADDITIONAL CONTINGENTS OF TROOPS WHICH WOULD BE DEPLOYED UNDER FRENCH COMMAND, GIRMA SAID THAT THIS IS NOT CLEAR YET. KENYA AND NAMIBIA HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE GOF'S MISSION. GIRMA REPORTED THAT OAU SECGEN SALIM HAS RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTED THE NEED FOR THE FRENCH DEPLOYMENT, BECAUSE OF THE LONG DELAY IN GETTING THE EXPANDED UNAMIR FORCE INTO RWANDA.

4. THE GOF EXPECTS THE UNSC TO VOTE ON THE DRAFT RWANDA RESOLUTION BY THE EVENING OF JUNE 21, AND IS CONFIDENT THAT THE RESOLUTION WILL BE APPROVED. MOST UNSC MEMBERS HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE FRENCH INITIATIVE,

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ALTHOUGH THE BRITISH, RUSSIANS AND CHINESE HAVE BEEN HESITANT. THE GOF DOES NOT EXPECT THAT ANY OF THESE COUNTRIES WILL OPPOSE THE RESOLUTION. IN RESPONSE TO FENDRICK'S QUESTION ABOUT WHY THE BRITISH SEEM RELUCTANT TO SUPPORT THE FRENCH RESOLUTION, GIRMA SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW IF BRITISH CONCERNS WERE A REFLECTION OF ITS TIES TO UGANDA.

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5. GIRMA AGREED WITH FENDRICK'S SUGGESTION THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE GOF TO EXPLAIN THE HUMANITARIAN GOALS OF ITS MISSION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN RPF CONCURRENCE SO THAT THE MISSION COULD SUCCEED IN ITS HUMANITARIAN OBJECTIVES. GOF AMBASSADOR TO RWANDA MARLAUD AND THE QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS ARE SCHEDULED TO TRAVEL TO MULINDI JUNE 20 TO MEET WITH RPF LEADERS TO MAKE CLEAR THE PURELY HUMANITARIAN OBJECTIVES OF THE FRENCH INITIATIVE. GIRMA WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT IN A MEETING WITH AF/C ON JUNE 17, RPF REPRESENTATIVES MURIGANDI AND GAHIMA HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT LESS HOSTILE THAN EXPECTED IN THEIR CRITICISM OF THE PROPOSED FRENCH INTERVENTION. FENDRICK ALSO TOLD GIRMA OF A/S MOOSE'S JUNE 18 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MUSEVENI, IN WHICH MUSEVENI HAD EXPRESSED UGANDA'S SUPPORT FOR FRENCH DEPLOYMENT TO RWANDA AND HAD OFFERED TO TALK WITH RPF GENERAL KAGAME TO CONVINCE HIM THAT THE FRENCH INTERVENTION WAS FOR NEUTRAL, HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES, AND THAT THE RPF SHOULD COOPERATE WITH THE FRENCH.

6. FENDRICK ASKED GIRMA WHAT INSTRUCTIONS THE FRENCH TROOPS WOULD HAVE FOR DEALING WITH THOSE IDENTIFIED AS LEADING OR BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRES. GIRMA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A POLICY HAS NOT YET BEEN WORKED OUT, AND AGREED THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR FRANCE TO HAVE A PLAN IN ADVANCE FOR DEALING WITH SUCH SITUATIONS. FENDRICK SAID THAT ONE OF THE RPF'S MAIN CONCERN IS WHAT THE FRENCH TROOPS WILL DO WITH THE KILLERS, AND THAT FRANCE MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO LET ITS TROOPS BE PUT INTO A POSITION WHERE THEY CAN BE ACCUSED OF PROTECTING THOSE

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RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRES.

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7. GIRMA AND FENDRICK ALSO DISCUSSED THE PROPOSED GROUND OPERATIONS OF THE FRENCH TROOPS IN RWANDA. THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR A CHAPTER VII MANDATE, WHICH ALLOWS THE TROOPS TO USE ALL NECESSARY FORCE FOR SELF-DEFENSE AND FOR PROTECTION OF THREATENED CIVILIANS AND HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS. GIRMA SAID THAT FRENCH TROOPS WILL ENTER RWANDA FROM ZAIRE, BECAUSE THE GOF VIEWS DEPLOYMENT THROUGH BURUNDI AS TOO RISKY IN VIEW OF THE ALREADY FRAGILE POLITICAL SITUATION IN BURUNDI, AND TANZANIA AND UGANDA HAVE BEEN NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT THE POSSIBLE USE OF THEIR TERRITORY BY FRENCH TROOPS DEPLOYING TO RWANDA. FRENCH TROOPS WILL OPERATE ONLY IN GOR-CONTROLLED AREAS OF RWANDA. THERE ARE NO PLANS TO GO TO KIGALI OR TO ENTER RPF-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. FRENCH TROOPS WILL ESTABLISH SAFEHAVEN AREAS FOR THREATENED CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN GOR-CONTROLLED AREAS OF RWANDA.

8. FENDRICK CONFIRMED TO GIRMA US SUPPORT FOR THE FRENCH MISSION AS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL, AND SAID THAT IO WOULD BE PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS TO USUN ONCE DEPARTMENT HAD A CHANCE TO REVIEW THE DRAFT FRENCH UNSC RESOLUTION, WHICH HAD JUST ARRIVED BY FAX FROM NEW YORK. GIRMA HAD ALSO SEEN U.S. PRESS GUIDANCE SUPPORTING THE FRENCH MISSION. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR U.S. SUPPORT.

9. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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